



Lovely Strange Dark

MINATO MACHI NEKO MACHI
"PORT TOWN CAT TOWN"
BY NANAMAKI KANAKO
CHAPTER 5

*Translation: Horenless
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I'M NEVER
TRUSTING ANYONE
EVER AGAIN!

IF YOU'RE
LYING TO ME
ABOUT THIS
COIN,

MOM,



step step step step

flip

MINATO MACHI
NEKO MACHI 5

THE WITCH ON THE ROOF



THE
CAT!

I'M
CALLING



MINATO MACHI
NEKO MACHI 5

THE WITCH ON THE ROOF





In that town, cats would
sometimes take on the
appearance of a person

and live with girls they
called "witches" who could
see them in this form.

But I can't
live with you
anymore.

there had been a
custom in that town.

I'm
sorry,
Ren.

Since times
long, long ago.

too long ago
to remember.





I'M
SORRY,
REN.

IT'S
FAR AWAY,
A BIG TOWN
WHERE ALL THE
HOUSES HAVE
CHIMNEYS.

AND I'M
GOING TO
HIS TOWN
TO LIVE
WITH HIM.

THERE'S
SOMEONE
I LOVE
NOW.

The custom says that
should a time ever come

when a witch and the cat
she'd been fated to be with were
forced to leave each other,

the witch shall wait
for a full moon, and
after making the cat
his favorite food,
give him a necklace
with a five-cent coin.
She would then tell him,

"I'm sorry, but I can't
live with you anymore."



SO THAT'S
WHY YOU
MADE MILK
TEA.

*It's my
favorite.*

WHY DID
YOU BOTHER
WITH ALL
THIS.

YURI?



SO,

clink

YOU CAN
HAVE THIS
BACK.

BUT
YOU'RE
THE ONE
WHO'S
GOING.
YURI?

ISN'T THIS
FOR WHEN
YOU WANT
THE CAT TO
LEAVE?



*It's just
like you for
Yuri... on
this island.*

Then
the cat
would nod
silently

and leave
without
a word.



I KNOW
IT'S HARD TO
BELIEVE A CAT'S
PROMISE.

SO THAT'S
ONLY IF I
HAPPEN TO
REMEMBER.



I'LL
MAKE YOU
A PROMISE,
THEN!

IF
YOU EVER
WANT TO SEE
ME AGAIN,
THROW THAT
COIN TOWARD
THE FULL
MOON.



B-BUT
I CAN'T
JUST NOT
WORRY!



DON'T WORRY TOO
MUCH ABOUT IT. THIS
HAPPENS MORE THAN
YOU THINK.



And just that
one time.

I'll come
see you.



THEY
NEVER
CAME
DOWN
FROM THE
ROOFS.

I DON'T
REMEMBER
THE LAST TIME
I'VE MET A
CHIMNEY SWEEP
IN THIS TOWN
FACE TO FACE.

YOU
POW! THE
ONE WHO'S
ALWAYS UP
ON THE ROOFS.



WHICH IS WHY
WE'RE ALWAYS
UNLUCKY!

IF YOU WANT
TO SEE HER, YOU
OUGHT TO HIRE
HER TO SWEEP
YOUR CHIMNEY.



MINORITY

HAVE YOU
SEEN MINOR!
RECENTLY? THE
CHIMNEY
SWEEP.





So when God rains his blessings down from Heaven, the chimney sweeps get them first.

That's why they say good things will come to people who touch them.



AND THAT'S BECAUSE CHIMNEY SWEEPS ARE ALWAYS UP ON THE ROOFS, WHERE THEY'RE CLOSEST TO HEAVEN.

IT IS.



JUST BECAUSE IT'S AN OLD SAYING.

DOESN'T MEAN IT'S NOT TRUE.



IT'S NOT REALLY TRUE, MOM.

BUT ISN'T THAT JUST AN OLD SAYING?

I GET IT NOW. SO THAT'S WHY EVERYONE'S MAD THAT MINORI NEVER COMES DOWN.



I'M TIRED AS HELL.

AHH.

SWIMMING









WAS
AT THE
WAY I
TALK

WHERE'S
YOUR?

WHY
CAN'T SHE
HEAR?



FAIR
ENOUGH,
I GUESS

NOTHING
REALLY

DO YOU
LIKE MILK
TEA?



Minoru, a
cat gave this
coin to me

when I
used to be
a witch.



ALL SHE
LEFT WAS
THAT COIN



SHE
MOVED
ABOUT
A YEAR
AGO

AFTER SHE
BUT INTO AN
ARRANGEMENT
WITH MY
DAD



There's a
port town
far, far
away.

where
cats take
the form
of boys

and live together
with girls, giving
them a little bit
of magic to find
happiness.



I made a
promise
with that
cat.

He'll come to
you no matter
what if you throw
that coin toward
the full moon.

His name
is Ren. He's a
very beautiful cat
with silver fur.



NOT THAT I BELIEVED A WORD OF IT. WHY WOULD SHE LEAVE IF SHE WAS SO "HAPPY" THERE?

I WAS PRETTY SURPRISED WHEN YOU ACTUALLY CAME.



I NEVER GO DOWN FROM THE ROOFS, SO THEY SEND THINGS ACROSS FROM THE WINDOW.

Meow

WHAT IS THIS? IT LOOKS DELICIOUS!

IT'S CALLED A HOTDOG.

Cloud says...



SOMETHING'S COMING FROM THE WINDOW!

JUST SOME FOOD.



MY DAD SENDS THEM.

YOU CAN HAVE IT, I DON'T WANT ANY.





WHEN YOU LIVED WITH MY MOTHER.

WHAT WAS SHE LIKE?



REN...

MMH?

roll roll roll

Sweet to have someone on that floor...

It's just because I'm her daughter? He must have really loved her...



REN-
LYN!

AND HERE I WAS THINKING YOU LOVED HER.
And it wasn't you, was it?

WHAT?!

I DON'T REALLY REMEMBER?

After all these days, I think I don't remember you, that's sweet.



YURI?

LET ME SEE...



YURI WAS THE SEVENTH WITCH I LIVED WITH.

BUT SHE LEFT AFTER A YEAR.

THAT'S WHY I CAME.

BUT I STILL REMEMBER WHAT IT FELT LIKE LOVING HER.

I MIGHT HAVE FORGOTTEN THAT.

rub rub



YEP!

I AM.



SO YOU'RE
ALREADY LIVING
WITH SOMEONE
ELSE?

EIGHTH?

SO
I FOUND
ANOTHER
"SEVENTH"

...AND
NOW I'M
LIVING WITH
MY EIGHTH
WITCH.



But,
we cats don't
call this being
unfaithful.

I SEE...



I LIKE NEW
PLACES, BUT
THREE DAYS IS
MORE THAN
ENOUGH TO
MAKE ME
BORED

WHY DOES
MINORS LOCK
ALL THE DOORS
AND WINDOWS?
I WANT TO
GO OUT.











BUT TO
ME, YURI
WAS THE ONE
WHO SEEMED
LIKE A CAT.

AND I
GUESS SHE
HATED ME FOR
NOT Caring AND
JUST LIVING IN A
HOUSE WITH-
OUT ONE.

EVERYONE
ELSE IN THIS
TOWN HAD A
CHIMNEY.

SHE
WAS A VERY
INTELLIGENT PERSON,
BUT NOTHING COULD
CHANGE HER MIND
ONCE SHE DECIDED -
SOMETHING.

WE WERE
BOTH IN IT TO.

I know
what you
mean.

Maybe
she just
was.



Sometimes
we can't

AND
SHE ONLY
DID WHAT SHE
WANTED. BUT
SHE WAS STILL
SO CUTE.

SHE'D NEVER
GO AGAINST
HER BELIEFS.

I have no
idea what
humans are
saying.

BUT THE
PAIN SHE LEFT
WOULD LAST A
LIFETIME.

SHE'D PASS
THROUGH
SOMEONE'S
LIFE LIKE A
WHIRLWIND.





HEY!

1/11

But humans
are completely
different.

GOAL LOOKS
PRETTY BUSY
DOWN IN THE
STREETS.

although
there's
nothing as
tangible as
happiness.

Or, for
example, to
cats, "love"
is something
much simpler,

Like when
they say
someone's
"like a cat".

And I'm not
at all "like"
because I
don't eat
at all.



GOING

GOING



YOU'RE NOT
FROM HERE,
ARE YOU?



WHERE
IS HE
?!



Ugh.





I EVEN
GOT HIM
DOUGHNUTS.

WHY?



pit
pat
pit
pat

I'M
GOING TO
BE LONELY
AGAIN.



SLAM

REN?!

WHA-

pit pat pit pat



REN!



pit
pat
pit
pat

jump!



IT-IT'S
ALRIGHT
NOW.

EVERY-
THING'S
ALRIGHT.
TELL ME WHO
HAPPENED



H
I
S
S
S

WAG-

"You
kiss" at
a point-
ing up



THERE,
THERE.

IT'S
ALRIGHT...

WE'RE
SAFE
HERE.

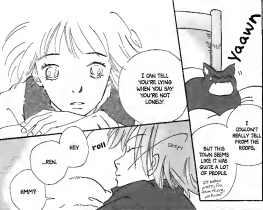
DON'T BE
SCARED.

Thank
goodness
he came
back...



jolt







CAN'T
YOU JUST
STAY HERE
FOREVER,
RENT?

WHY MOM
GAVE ME
THAT COIN

I THINK
I GET IT
NOW...



Unlike me,

can bring
a person
happiness
with just
a single
touch.

People
say that
someone
who's like
a cat



YOU'RE SO
SOFT...



I
TOLD THE
GUY WHO'S
THE BOSS
OF THIS
TOWN

THAT
I'D SHOW
HIM IT.



AH!

RIGHT!
THE
COIN!

WHAT?
?

MINORI, DO
YOU REMEMBER
WHERE YOU
THREW THE
COIN?



RUMBLE

The Whole Story

Stay right there!

COME BACK AND FIGHT ME FAIR AND SQUARED!

Nooo!

I WASN'T TRYING TO START TROUBLE ON YOUR TURF!







BUT
IT STILL
MADE ME SO
ANGRY

I KNOW MY
DAD UNDER-
STOOD IT WAS
BECAUSE I WAS
A CHIMNEY
SWEEP,



AND I LIVE
ALL ALONE
IN AN ATTIC.

DON'T YOU
THINK IT'S
TERRIBLE?

MY
MOM'S
GONE,

SO
TELL
ME,

WHY DO
THEY ALL
WANT TO
TOUCH
ME?

THEY'RE
THE ONES
WHO ARE
REALLY
HAPPY



ARE YOU—

HEY,
RON

AMMY?

ARE YOU
GOING TO GO
HOME? BACK TO
THE WITCH YOU
WERE LIVING
WITH?

SO I LOOKED
UP AT THE SKY,
AND IT JUST SO
HAPPENED TO BE
A FULL MOON
THAT NIGHT.

ALL MY MOM
LEFT ME WAS
THIS COIN.

I THOUGHT
TO MYSELF,
"I DON'T HAVE
ANYTHING,



NO.

I CAN ONLY
DO THAT ONCE.
OTHERWISE IT'S
MEANINGLESS.



OF
COURSE

I'LL GO
HOME.



THIS ISN'T
MY TOWN.



OH! WHY?

THERE
IT IS!!



WHY?

IF YOU
FIND THAT
COIN, WOULD
YOU GIVE IT
TO ME?

THEN.

AREN'T
YOU GOING TO
MAKE ANOTHER
PROMISE TO COME
BACK AND
SEE ME?



LET'S
JUMP.
DON'T
WORRY,
WE'LL
BE FINE.

NO! WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING?!



IT'S
CAUGHT ON
THIS TREE
BRANCH!



NO
MATTER
HOW ONE
FALLS.

THEY
ALWAYS
LAND ON
THEIR FEET.

NO!



THAT'S
NOT WHAT
I MEAN.

RENY!

DON'T
GO!











IF A ONE
WANTED TO
GO SEE SOME-
ONE, THEY'D GO
WHENEVER THEY
WANTED TO.

BECAUSE



"PROMISE"?

EVERYONE
HEARD THAT
WORD IN
A WHILE.



RIGHT?

PROMISES
DON'T REALLY
MEAN ANYTHING
TO CATS.



AND
LEAVE LIKE
THE WIND.

THEY
COME
LIKE THE
WIND,

THAT'S
JUST HOW
CATS ARE.



DUMPED
ME.

MY ONE



AND ALL A
PERSON CAN
DO WHEN A
CAT LEAVES

IS SET
OUT THEIR
FAVORITE
SNACK.

LEAVE
A WARM
BED,

LOOK OUT
AT THE ALLEYS
AND WINDOWS
EVERY DAY,
AND SIGH.



AND TRUST
THAT THEY'LL
COME BACK.

ALL WE
CAN DO IS
WAIT FOR
THEM



HAVE
YOU BEEN
WAITING?



WHAT
ABOUT
YOU, DAD?



I DON'T
EVEN HAVE A
CHIMNEY.

BUT I
GUESS
I JUST
HAVEN'T
BEEN
LUCKY.



I
WENT TO
LOOK FOR
HER, THEN I
WAITED

LOOKED
FOR HER
AGAIN, THEN
CAME BACK
TO WAIT

WELL,
YEAH, FOR
A WHILE
NOW.

*Waiting
you
figured
out*



WHAT
DO YOU
THINK?

I'VE NEVER
BEEN LUCKY,
BUT I FEEL LIKE IF I
GOT A HUSB FROM YOU
RIGHT NOW, HAPPINESS
MIGHT EVEN COME
TO SOMEONE
LIKE ME.



FOR MOM...

MISS
CHIMNEY
SWEEP.



COMES WITH A
REASON WHY WE
STILL SAY IT.

BUT EVERY
OLD SAYING



THAT...

THAT'S
JUST...

I KNOW.

AN OLD
SAYING.

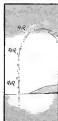


jump

jump



whoosh
whoosh



Some say you can bring a person happiness with just a touch.



but others say people can find happiness from just a touch.



I made milk tea,
made the bed,
and all that's left to do is wait.

